(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to add1200 MWs from wind energy during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a project is also proposed to be set up in Orissa State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Commercial wind power projects of a capacity of 840 MW have been installed during the current financial year so far *i.e.* April—December, 2005. It is expected that wind power capacity of about 1200 MW would be completed in the country, by March 2006, *i.e.* the end of the financial year in the States of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(c) Setting up of commercial wind power projects has not commenced so far in the State of Orissa

(d) Does not arise.

Popularization of solar energy

1813. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiatives are being taken by the Government to educate and encourage the people to make use of more and more solar energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Besides, organizing various mass awareness activities through different media *viz.* print, electronic and outdoor as well as workshops, seminars, training programmes, supporting setting-up of energy parks to educate and encourage the people to make use of more and more renewable energy systems and devices including Solar Energy, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) has started

publishing bi-monthly newsletter entitled "Akshay Urja" and quarterly newsletter "RESOURCE". A set of 12 booklets on various new and renewable energy technologies and, programme including solar energy has been brought-out and widely circulated. For the last 2 years, Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas is being organized in all the districts, State capitals and national capital of Delhi on 20th August in which human chians/rallies, quiz, essay and painting competitions, seminars are organized to popularize renewable energy including solar energy. In order to create awareness, District Advisory Committees (DACs) have already been set-up in more than 500 districts through-out the country. A mass awareness campaign for Solar Water Heating Systems and Akshay Urja Shops was also recently launched by the Ministry through advertisements in various newspapers in Hindi, English and Regional languages.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds allocated for promotion of solar energy

†1814. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the main object to promote non-conventional energy is to protect the forest covered areas;

(b) whether the main object to promote non-conventional energy is to protect the forest covered areas;

(b) if so, whether the solar energy system is found successful to protect the forests;

(c) if so, the quantity of energy produced and distributed during the last three years under the Solar Photo Voltaic (S.P.V.) and Solar Thermal Electric (S.T.E.) programmes by Government in Himachal Pradesh;

(d) whether Government propose to allocate more funds to promote solar energy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Government is promoting use of non-conventional energy

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.